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BEER  
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12, QUEEN'S ROAD.

# Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857.

THE  
KING OF SCOTCH  
WHISKIES  
KING EDWARD VII.  
LIQUEUR GOLD LABEL  
\$21.00 Per Dozen.  
KING EDWARD VII.  
SPECIAL WHITE LABEL  
\$15.50 Per Dozen.  
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No. 14,763 號三十六百七千四萬一第 日二初月七年七十三光 HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, AU 1ST 2ND, 1905. 三拜禮 號二月八年五零百九千一英港香. PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH.

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WHISKY.**  
**A. S. WATSON & CO.,  
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WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.  
ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS. [a1342]  
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& CO.'S**  
**"SPECIAL BLEND" WHISKY**  
A Blend  
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Distillations of the  
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**PORTLAND CEMENT.**  
\$4.50 per Cask 375 lbs. net ex Factory.  
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SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,  
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Hongkong, 1st March, 1905. [a1412]

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Hongkong, 4th July, 1905. [1596]

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(IMPORTED EVERY MONTH, THERE-  
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**ELBY'S, SCHULTZ'S, AMBERITE  
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CARTRIDGES** 8, 10, 12, 16, and 20 BOBBS,  
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AMMUNITION in Variety.  
WM. SCHMIDT & CO.,  
Hongkong 28th November, 1902. [190]

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**THE HONGKONG STEAM WATER-  
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Hongkong, 14th June, 1905. [1433]

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Consultation Free.  
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Hongkong, 17th January, 1905. [1682]

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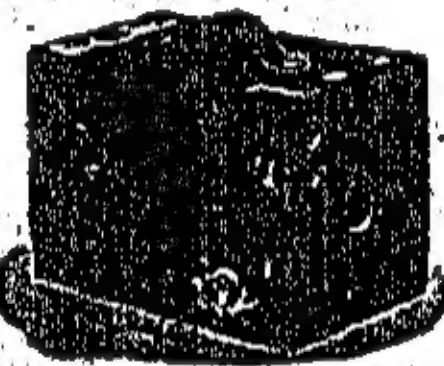
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HONGKONG AGENTS. [a34]

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Hongkong, 15th August 1904. [a39]

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FOR FATIGUE OF MIND AND BODY, AND SLEEPLESSNESS.  
ALL CLUB AND HOTEL BARS KEEP IT.

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ASBATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.  
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ALL NEW GOODS IN STOCK.  
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Hongkong, 27th May, 1905. [a1299]

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Hongkong, 4th July, 1905. [a37]

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THOROUGHLY SEASONED.

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WEST OF ENGLAND BILLIARD CLOTHS A SPECIALITY.

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BILLIARD TABLE MAKERS AND IVORY TURNERS.  
BOMBAY.  
Hongkong, 6th April, 1904. [a27-2]

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THE WHOLE OF THE ABOVE WILL BE OFFERED  
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FROM THE USUAL PRICES FOR CASH ONLY.

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Hongkong, 24th July, 1905. [a26]

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SANDOW'S DEVELOPERS.

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Dining accommodation for 300 persons.  
131 Bedrooms.  
Elegantly Furnished Reception Rooms.  
Private Bar and Billiard Rooms for Hotel residents.  
Hydraulic Lifts to each Floor.  
Electric Lighting and Fans.  
Every Comfort.  
Ladies' Afternoon Tea Rooms.  
Ladies' Cloak Rooms.  
Matron in attendance.

CHARGES MODERATE, AND NO EXTRAS.

A. F. DAVIES,  
Acting Manager.

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A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.

Ladies' Afternoon Tea-Rooms.  
Private Bar and Billiard-Rooms.  
Hot and Cold Water throughout.  
Electrically Lighted. Electric Fans (if required).  
Electric Passenger Elevator to each floor.  
Table D'Hôte at separate tables.  
For Terms, &c., apply to the MANAGER.  
Hongkong, 24th July 1905. [a1729]

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A FIRST CLASS HOTEL situated near the Banks and Principal Offices.  
Excellent Cuisine and Wines.  
Large and lofty Rooms, elegantly furnished.  
Hydraulic Elevator, hot and cold water throughout.  
Special Rates for Tourists.  
Launch Service for Guests.  
For Terms, apply to the MANAGER.  
Hongkong, 31st October, 1902. [a46]

## CARLTON HOUSE

Hotels.

No. 8 & 10, ICE HOUSE ROAD.  
THESE premises, formerly known as the Club Bazaar and the Waverley Hotel have been thoroughly renovated and furnished in excellent style as Private Family Hotels.  
Cool Rooms, Comfort of Residents, and the Cuisine a specialty.  
Apply to—  
THE MANAGER.  
Hongkong, 7th October, 1904. [194]

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(HOTEL-SANITARIUM OF SOUTH CHINA)  
MACAO.

HAS been re-opened under European management and most strict supervision as to food, cleanliness, and hygiene of the place. All comforts of a home.  
A most pleasant retreat for those desirous of a few days rest and quiet.  
Comfortable accommodation for travellers paying a visit to the historical and picturesque colony of Macao.

Macao is 40 miles south-west of Hongkong. One steamer (ss. *Hengshan*), daily to and from Hongkong, and two steamers to and from Canton, give easy communication with both these centres.  
Cable Address—"BOAVISTA".  
For Terms, apply  
[a241] THE MANAGER.

## VICTORIA HOTEL.

SHAMPEEN-CANTON.

On the British Concession.

## MACAO HOTEL.

MACAO, CHINA.

In the Centre of the Praya Grande.

Both Hotels under experienced European Management.  
Every Comfort and Convenience for Residents and Tourists.

WM. FARMER,  
Proprietor.

## SUN FAT & CO.

MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN  
LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S  
UNDERWEAR,  
EMBROIDERIES, LACES, SILKS, PONGEES,  
GRASS LINEN, SHAWLS, HANDKERCHIEFS,  
BLANKETS, TRUNKS,  
LEONY FURNITURE AND FANCY GOODS  
No. 82, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
Any Order Promptly Attended To  
Hongkong, 12th January, 1905.



## INTIMATION

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LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

AERATED  
WATER  
MANUFACTURERSTHE WATER used is THE PUREST that  
can be obtained, and is SKILFULLY FILTERED  
ON THE MOST SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES.THE MACHINERY employed is of latest  
design and most approved type.THE BEST INGREDIENTS only are  
used.GUARANTEEING  
ABSOLUTE  
PURITY.ENGLISH  
EXPERTSManage our Factories, and their practical  
knowledge and constant supervision enables us  
to produce waters of unrivalled excellence and  
purity.A. S. WATSON & CO.  
LIMITED.Chemists by Appointment to H. E. the  
Governor.

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## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

On communications relating to the news columns  
should be addressed to THE EDITOR, The Daily Press,  
131, Queen's Road, East, Hong Kong. For all other  
communications, including advertisements, should be  
addressed to the Manager, The Daily Press, 131, Queen's  
Road, East, Hong Kong. All letters for publication should be  
sent to the Editor, and should be accompanied by a  
stamp of 10 cents, and should be sent to the Editor,  
The Daily Press, 131, Queen's Road, East, Hong Kong.  
The Editor is not responsible for the return of  
manuscripts.

## BIRTHS

On 24th July, at 29 Avenue Paul, Brant, the  
wife of W. H. Brant, Hong Kong and Shanghai  
Shipping Corporation, of a son.

## MARRIAGES

On 31st July, at Hong Kong, Mr. S. K. Sze  
and Miss Queenie Shum, of the English  
Baptist Mission in Shantung, aged 39 years.

## DEATHS

On 26th July, at Hong Kong, THOMAS CALHOUN,  
Master Mariner, aged 33 years.On 26th July, at Hong Kong, EDWARD MARON,  
Foreman, Shanghai and Hong Kong Dyeing and  
Cleaning Co., Ltd., aged 27 years.On 26th July, at Shanghai, JULIUS MANNICH,  
aged 23 years.On 27th July, FREDERICK JOHN FREAME,  
Superintendent, Shanghai and Hong Kong Dyeing  
and Cleaning Co., Ltd., aged 44 years.HONGKONG OFFICE: 131, QUEEN'S ROAD, E.  
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, AUGUST 2ND, 1905.

We have received a monthly market report from Messrs. W. A. Fritton & Co., of Manila, dated July 28th, with which we are somewhat at a loss how to deal. The money market of Manila has features of particular interest for Hong Kong; and we would have been glad to publish all the information that this old-established firm has to offer, had it been presented in a different way. As it is, much of the matter in this circular appears to us to be libellous, and much of the remainder to be unintelligible. Mr. Fritton's last circular was issued in July, 1903, and he explains that he was mistaken in thinking he had left a capable representative to continue them in his absence. They are now to be resumed, and he promises to deal faithfully in later issues "with our Hong Kong friends," making these circulars "spicy" but honest. Although he has not "the slightest inclination to pose as a Thomas W. Lawson of 'Frenzied Finance' fame," he promises to give full facts and figures, to show how numerous shareholders were "swindled" by some "concern" not directly named. "We

will prove," the circular goes on, "who got the benefit of everything, as well as other matters of considerable interest to the fools who trusted to the stranger, and were taken in; who lost their investments, and richly deserved to, for pinning their faith in windbags, and endeavouring to down a man who had played the game here for years. This is a business circular, but so many things have happened, and so much has been said (and falsely), that we owe a duty to our clean reputation, and so intend taking the public into our entire confidence." Evidently the August number of the circular will be of considerable interest, and be in great demand in Hong Kong. We hope, therefore, that Messrs. W. A. Fritton & Co. will remember that Spanish is not the popular language in Hong Kong or Shanghai, and be satisfied to write "Tax Assessment" instead of *amillariminto*, which is wrong in any case, so far as its orthography is concerned. "Improvement" or "amelioration" is quite as good as *mejoria*, even in Manila; and on this coast, where also the circular is intended to be read, business men have no time to waste in turning the leaves of a dictionary because of the foolish Manila fashion of sprinkling every paragraph with unnecessary Spanish.

Meanwhile, we are told that "this (unspecified) Hongkong firm have lost more money since then than we ever possessed; they will lose more before they finish." And other allusions much too strong to print. The comments on transactions are certainly "spicy"; the commentaries assure us they are honest; we see no reason why even a share list should not have literary qualities; but we would have been grateful for more explicit information. In the list of quotations (which we are reproducing in the commercial pages of our weekly edition) we notice one tobacco company's stock is quoted "buyers at P.3.00." The same stock happens to be quoted locally at \$9; sellers; and we have reason to believe that the Manila quotation may have been coloured by prejudice. The general comments may therefore not be entirely trustworthy. We hope not, for it is stated that there is a "money famine" in Manila; that interest from ten to thirty per cent is exacted even when the security is unimpeachable; and that even at these rates people have to "struggle" to get it. "Taxation is higher than it ever was known," is a wage also. Yet "rents tend to decline, as also living expenses;" a curious thing, indeed, when viewed in the light of Hong Kong experience. The circular hopes the Government will abandon all their business ventures, which is, presumably, an allusion to the competition of prison labour and production. "There is," it is stated, "a general feeling of distrust and insecurity." Why everybody should be "living from hand to mouth" when wages are higher than ever before, and rent and living expenses declining, is quite beyond our comprehension. Yet Mr. Fritton winds up with an assurance that though his comments may be unpleasant reading, they are, none the less, plain truth.

The 273rd plague case was recorded yesterday.

Our readers will find a large instalment of interesting matter on page 5, which should not be overlooked.

The British North Borneo Official Gazette, prohibits the export of any Straits Dollars beyond \$25. The penalty for such exportation is \$500, and the forfeiture of the coin.

A Shanghai vocalist, singing "Ask nothing more of me, Sweet," apparently to have been the only singer who was not encircled. The audience seems to have taken the song too seriously.

The Official Weather Prophet has begun the week with two "bad shots." Monday, a very fine day, was to have been "showery"; yesterday, gloomy and very wet, was forecasted "fine."

The Oriental Construction Co., of which Mr. C. W. Mead is president, has just obtained a contract for erecting and furnishing a system of tanks at Tangku for the Standard Oil Company.

The suit of the Shanghai Building and Investment Co. against Harold D. Bassett for \$15,000 odd has been dismissed by the American Consular Court, costs divided. It appeared that defendant held the amount against a greater amount of wages due to him.

The Governor of British North Borneo tapped the first rubber-yielding tree in British North Borneo at Sokong estate on the 24th June. There are now estimated to be about 57,000 trees, and the company, therefore, should soon reap the benefit of their enterprise.

We were yesterday requested to reproduce an account of the deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer regarding cable rates. On reference to our files, we find that we published an article on the subject on July 18th, and on page 5 of our issue of July 18th, the identical article for which publication is now desired.

The Boycott Committee at Amoy denies that there has been any violence there.

The Tokyo Cotton Yarn Mill pays a dividend for the past half-year of eight per cent.

The Nippon suggests that the Japanese flag must fly over the whole coast line from Behring Strait to Korea.

It is reported that as a result of the battle of Tushima, British cruisers are to carry torpedoes again.

The Shanghai A.D.C. which held its annual meeting on July 25th, has had a successful season, both "financially and artistically."

Foreigners in Yokohama have been suffering from attacks of "abdominal influenza," supposed to be due to the inadequate sewer system on the bluff.

The Port Arthur Commission at St. Petersburg decided that the surrender was justifiable. The stories of Stossel's execution were fabrications.

Miss Queenie Strachan, well known in Hong Kong through her connection with the Dallas Opera Company, was married on Monday to Mr. S. A. Serebrennikov.

The Viceroy wants to go abroad in search of health, but his resignation has again been refused. The *Chung Ngai Sun* says he has been granted an extension of leave.

The *Fookien Echo* of July 22nd says:—Mr. Bertram Giles, who is to take charge of the British Consulate on Mr. Playfair's departure next week, arrived with Mrs. Giles by the *Hutchinson* on the 17th. Mr. Playfair leaves by the German mail on the 22nd.

The sailing ship *A. G. Ryan*, from Hong Kong to Baltimore via the Horn, lost all her spar except her foremast and bowsprit in a typhoon off the Loochoos on the 17th, but succeeded in making the Kii channel, and was towed into Kobe by the steamer *Spezia*.

The powder-magazine in Ma Ling, Sun-tak district, exploded on the 20th July. About twelve dozen people were killed, and a greater number wounded. The number of houses destroyed is estimated at over a hundred. The Viceroy has deputed some officers to make an enquiry into the matter. *Chung Ngai Sun* Po.

The remand case in which Mr. Barros, of Mosque Terrace, was charged with allowing ferocious dogs to roam at large was called on. Defendant appeared before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, and proved that the animals had been killed. His Worship ordered that the bitten coolies be paid \$1 each as compensation.

The long-pending case between H. Benner & Co. and the Chinese officials is not yet settled. Benner has it, however, that a settlement may soon be looked for. The case is one of interest to both Chinese and foreign residents of Shanghai and vitally so to the foreign merchants and those who intend to establish business of any kind in that city.

An explosion of a magazine, containing 8,000 cwt. of smokeless powder, belonging to the Chinese troops at Wonsung, occurred on Sunday afternoon, the 23rd July at 5.30 o'clock. No lives fortunately were lost. It is claimed that the explosion was due to spontaneous combustion owing to the very dry and hot weather of the previous days.

The Hotel Metropole Co., Ltd., at Shanghai held its first annual meeting on July 24th. Although a great deal of money (\$10,551) had to be spent on improvements, it was all met by the first year's earnings, which further provided an interim dividend of four per cent, and a final dividend of six per cent and left \$4,890 to carry forward. There are still 500 shares unissued.

It is reported in our Chinese paper, the *Chung Ngai Sun*, that the Viceroy proposes to employ the yamen of the ex-Governor as an "Anti-opium Office." Officers who are over forty years of age will be ordered to reside in the office to abandon the opium-smoking habit. It is also proposed to prepare opium in that office, where prepared opium will be sold in retail and wholesale, and no other place in the province of Kwangtung is to be allowed to prepare it.

The Japanese comment here reproduced illumines the supposed "severity" of a recent sentence. "In this connection it may be pointed out that the offences charged against Captain Rongouin was one which the law could not overlook, but so soon as the law was fully vindicated, the Emperor is represented as feeling that the occasion is one demanding leniency." Obviously, the sentence was never intended to be enforced. Our allies continue to improve as our acquaintance ripens.

The C. N. S. Liner, which arrived at Shanghai on July 24th, from Chefoo, reported:—At 6.30 p.m. on Thursday, the 20th July, in Lat. 38 deg. 8' N., Long. 120 deg. 30' E., with Hwaki bearing S. 62 E. (true) dist. 8 miles, sighted a floating contact mine. This mine was almost awash, very rusty, and covered with marine growth. It was circular in shape with a flat top and measured about 3 feet in diameter. The ship was brought round into position, and having on board a Hotchkiss quick-firing gun, very kindly supplied to us by the Chinese Customs authorities, a heavy fire was soon concentrated on this mine, and the mine was soon concentrated on this mine, and the mine was soon concentrated on this mine.

The various Steamship Companies which send steamers to Shanghai are complaining of the discrepancy between the time kept there and the Hankow time kept by the steamers. The difference is almost a half-hour and as the Customs observe the local time it is half-past ten by the Hankow time when the Changsha Customs office opens in the morning. The shipping people rightly say that there is no good reason why the Changsha Customs should not keep the same time as Hankow. A half-hour is often very valuable to a shipping company and some weight should be given to their complaint.

## TELEGRAMS.

["DAILY PRESS" SERVICE.]

## THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO INTERFERE.

LONDON, 1st August.

President Roosevelt has requested the Government of Great Britain to use its influence with the Japanese Government to persuade the latter to modify its terms.

The British Government has refused.

## THE "ST. KILDA" CASE.

GREAT BRITAIN PASSES ITS DEMANDS FOR COMPENSATION.

LONDON, 1st August.

Lord Lansdowne has announced that Great Britain is pressing its demands upon the Russian Government for compensation for the sinking of the "St. Kilda" and other British vessels sunk by Russian ships of war.

## MADRAS CHOLERA STRICKEN.

LONDON, 1st August.

The epidemic of cholera at Madras is attaining serious dimensions.

## YELLOW FEVER AT NEW YORK.

LONDON, 1st August.

Cases of yellow fever are reported at New York.

## SIR CHARLES DUDGEON'S PROPOSAL REFUSED.

LONDON, 31st July.

(Delayed in transmission.)

At a meeting of the China Association, a motion that the resolution proposed by Sir Charles Dudgeon "be not put" was carried by 19 votes to 18.

## THE VISIT OF THE FRENCH FLEET TO ENGLAND.

LONDON, 30th July.

The whole programme of the entertainment of the French fleet in August is of the most elaborate description. It comprises a Royal Luncheon at Cowes, at Windsor, and at the Guildhall, culminating with a banquet in Westminster Hall, which latter is regarded as quite an exceptional compliment.

## POOR PROSPECTS OF PEACE.

LONDON, 30th July.

The Tsar, in reply to a petition urging him not to conclude a shameful peace, said that the Russian people may rely on him never to make a dishonourable or unworthy peace.

## THE APPROACHING GENERAL ELECTION.

LONDON, 30th July.

There is a growing belief that there will be a general election in the autumn. The Scottish Conservative candidates have been officially warned to be ready for it at the end of October.

## DISTINGUISHED GLOBE-TROTTERS.

Tokyo, 25th July.

The P.M.S. *Manchuria* with Miss Alice Roosevelt and Secretary Taft on board with their party arrived at Yokohama this morning. The American Association of Japan was conspicuous at the welcome; they fitted out three steamers from Uraga and met the *Manchuria* at the mouth of the bay with fireworks, the *Manchuria* being piloted by a man-of-war.

The Japanese comment here reproduced illumines the supposed "severity" of a recent sentence. "In this connection it may be pointed out that the offences charged against Captain Rongouin was one which the law could not overlook, but so soon as the law was fully vindicated, the Emperor is represented as feeling that the occasion is one demanding leniency." Obviously, the sentence was never intended to be enforced. Our allies continue to improve as our acquaintance ripens.

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## SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 1st August.

## IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR F. T. PIGGOTT (JUDGE JUSTICE).

A QUESTION OF PARTNERSHIP.  
Re Tong-Loo, plaintiff, and Li Fung, Li Kung, Li Shung, Li Chan, partners of the Tak Heng, and Tak Heng, defendants, and in the matter of the issue between the said Tong-Loo, plaintiff, and Li Fung and Li Shung, defendants.

The issue to be tried was whether Li Fung and Li Shung were partners in the Tak Heng or not. The plaintiff had obtained judgment against the defendants, and now, two of them protested that they were not partners.

Mr. H. N. Ferrers (instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding) represented the plaintiff, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. C. H. Kong Sing) appeared for the defendants.

His Lordship, after hearing further evidence, and the addresses of Counsel, stated that the whole case was a mere question as to "holding out." He would, therefore, give judgment for the defendants with costs.

## IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PETIT JUDGE).

MULLER AND JUSTI S. GOLDENBERG.  
This was a claim for \$140 on account of medical attendance.

Mr. J. Hays (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master), who appeared for the plaintiffs, made a preliminary application to amend the date of the claim from 24th June to 24th April, 1905. The plaintiffs, he said, agreed to attend the defendant and her family for one year, from the 24th April, 1904. Such attendance was not to include surgical operations, and on this account, there was a sum of \$20 due.

Defendant said she engaged Dr. Muller, and paid him \$20 for the first operation he performed on her child, she agreed to engage him as a family doctor, but after he had performed the second operation on the child he did not again attend it for two days, and it had to be taken to another doctor.

Dr. Muller deposed: I arranged with defendant to attend her for a year for an amount of \$120. Such attendance was not to include operations or confinements. She has paid me about \$50 altogether, but has not given me notice to discontinue our arrangement. There is still a sum of \$120 outstanding for the yearly fee, and \$20 due on a second operation.

His Honour: Did you suggest that it would be cheaper for her to have a yearly arrangement?

Witness: Yes, and from the 21st April to the 11th May I attended the child seven times.

Eva Goldenberg, sworn, stated: I employed the plaintiff as my family doctor about April of last year. Since that time he has performed a second operation on my boy for which I have not paid. The sum I agreed to pay the plaintiff was \$120. I have not paid the amount because I am dissatisfied with the manner in which they have treated my boy.

After hearing further evidence His Honour awarded judgment and costs to the plaintiffs.

SWORN YUEN FIRM S. MA CHUN KU.  
The plaintiffs claimed from the defendants \$144.90 on account of coal sold and delivered.

Mr. O. D. Thomson represented the plaintiffs, and Mr. F. X. Almeida a Castro appeared for the defendant.

Defendant admitted owing an amount of \$67, which had been paid to Court.

His Honour gave judgment in favour of the plaintiffs for the amount claimed and costs.

## THE HEAT FATALITIES AT SHANGHAI.

It appears that Mr. F. J. Freame, the manager, and Mr. W. E. Mason, the foreman, whose deaths were announced in a recent *Daily Press* telegram, were the only foreigners employed at the Shanghai Dyeing works. Mr. Freame was the principal witness at the inquest touching the foreman's death, and died within 24 hours. He deposed that in the finishing room the temperature was 112 deg. Mason, who had a wife and three children in England, had not been a year in Shanghai.

A private correspondent writing from Shanghai informs us that the week previous to these deaths was one of the hottest remembered there for many years.

## REMARKABLE SUICIDE OF A HONGKONG PRISONER.

Yesterday there died at the Hospital a man who had been taken there from the gaol, with injuries to the neck practically amounting to dislocation. It appears that he was arrested for robbing a boat-woman, and received the injuries stated in a remarkably determined and painful attempt at suicide. He had put his head between the planks of the bed in his cell, and by wrenching movements succeeded in effecting his purpose.

## M. DE WITTE'S PURPOSEFUL CANDOUR.

The world is entirely mistaken in considering that Russia is desirous to restore peace, at any cost. The Russian public is divided into two, that is, the war party and the peace party. The former has a great number of adherents and is very influential. It advocates the continuance of the war. The peace party, among whom I count myself, opposes this view. I tell you this very plainly, to believe that candour is essential to diplomatic success. I advocate peace prior to the commencement of hostilities, but my opinions have undergone a certain change since the breaking out of the war. As I have told you, there are two parties, but they would at once become one if Japan should propose terms of peace detrimental to the national interests of Russia. If I report that the Japanese proposals are not acceptable, all Russia will readily accept that decision, and will determine to carry on the war as long as may be necessary.—M. de Witte.

## CANTON NOTES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Canton, 31st July.

## AMERICAN CONSUL AND THE SH LEWD VICEEROY.

The American merchants in Canton, in consequence of the placards which have been posted in various parts of the city, and in consequence of the Anti-American mass meetings and meetings in the temples, have sent a joint petition to the American Consul-General, asking that Viceroy Shun be requested to prohibit the posting of these placards and the holding of these meetings.

His Excellency the Viceroy replied as follows:—"Received the dispatch from the United States Consul General at Canton. The dispatch states that in Canton and other places in Kwangtung Province placards have been posted and mass meetings have been held to urge the people not to purchase or use American goods. This sort of thing tends to impede the harmony and peace existing between the two nations, and also the peace of Kwangtung Province. It requests me to prohibit the posting of these placards and the holding of these mass meetings. I have perused carefully your dispatch, and after investigating the matter I find that these mass meetings and placards urging the people not to use or purchase American goods are caused by your Government passing an exclusion act. America and China have been on peaceful terms for a long time, which makes it all the more unfortunate that such unpleasant things should happen. The fact is, however, that the whole question of boycotting American goods originated from the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, and it gradually spread to other provinces. The people of Canton are not alone in this matter, and it is not alone in Canton that the public mind has been roused. I trust you will find this excusable; the people are at liberty to deal in whatever kind of goods they like. I cannot prohibit the people in choosing not to purchase and use American goods any more than I can order them not to do so, for I have no such power. The meetings held by the people to urge others not to use or purchase American merchandise is considered by them to be necessary for the protection of the interests of their own country, which is only natural. If undue force were to be used in suppressing these mass meetings I am afraid it would only have a tendency to make matters worse, and the people might get so angry that I might not be even able to persuade them to desist. I hope the heat of offices of the respective countries will be able to solve this difficult question and peace may be preserved. I have already given instructions to the officials in the various districts of Kwangtung province to inquire into the matter with increased energy, and to devise some means to ease the people's mind. If there should be disturbances caused by any of these meetings which may tend towards serious riots, or if brutal force is used to prevent people from using American goods, which amounts to robbing the people of their liberty—if any such unreasonable and lawless measures are taken, I will then instruct the officials of the different districts to punish such offenders. If, on the other hand, meetings were held by the gentry and merchants for a good purpose, such as delivering reasonable lectures, urging the people not to use or purchase American goods, in order to protect the interests of their country, or to create a union of the people to draw up declarations or terms or conditions urging the people not to use or purchase American goods for a like reason, it is only a proper thing to do and I cannot or have not power to interfere. Your Honourable Consul-General is an intelligent man endowed with great common-sense, and you will acknowledge that what I have said is correct. I have heard that your Honourable Government intends to treat the Chinese labourers liberally, and as I consider, your Government really illustrates I sincerely hope that when you report this matter to your Honourable Government, your Honourable Government will remove the treaty peacefully so that the people of China will change their anger into joy, and the peace which has been in existence between the respective countries will be increased by tenfold." These are not only my wishes but I believe it is in your heart also."

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## AFTER MUKDEN.

BY DUGALD CHRISTIE, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.S.  
All has gone on quietly here since the Japanese took possession of the city. The great battle of Mukden, however, will not soon be forgotten. We first heard of the Japanese forward movement on 25th February, and we found pretty confident that these advances would end in their triumphant march into Mukden. Day after day the battle raged ceaselessly, the firing of heavy artillery steadily increasing; first to the south-west and south-east and then along the whole front a distance of about ninety miles. On the 7th of March the sound of the large guns came much nearer, reverberating through the city and shaking our windows, and on that evening, for several nights following, the sight from the balcony of our house was glorious. About three miles to the south of us the great Russian stores of fuel and grain were in flames. Bridges and villages were also burning, and the whole sky was ablaze. High up in the air the star-shaped shells were bursting, and the roar of artillery was incessant. On the morning of the 9th the pumps and the village firing seemed quite near. That night a very serious action was going on a mile to the S.E. of us and left no doubt on the 10th, the fighting was within half-mile of our house. The Japanese were seen falling in our garden, and a shell fell in a gully quite near, but fortunately did not explode.

The wounded began to arrive early that morning, and we soon forgot the sound of battle. A number of wounded Chinese were lying outside the wall, and a barefooted stretcher-bearer was carrying them in. By 9 a.m. the operation room presented a lively scene, and we were kept very busy until 4 p.m. In the afternoon a sharp fight took place quite near us between the Japanese and several hundred Russians who were trying to escape from the city. The bullets fell thick round the hospital, and we could hear them strike the roof and chimneys. At this time some retreating Russian soldiers seem to have lost all control, and entered Chinese houses, shooting any one they met. I was not far from the refugees and deliberately killed several of the defenceless inmates.

Nine wounded Russians were under our care for some days till removed by the Japanese. Their admirable medical arrangements, and the kind, gentle way in which they handled the Russian wounded showed how well they treat those who fall into their hands.

We also had twenty sick and wounded Japanese in the hospital for some time. The military authorities took very kind notice of what we did for them, and Mr. Marshall O'Connell presented me with one thousand yen for our hospital work.

I enclose a photograph of some of our conscientious wounded. The more serious cases could not come outside. The assistants and myself are in our white operating garments. In the centre of the front row is an old man of about eighty, showing the remains of his right thigh which had to be amputated on account of a severe wound. The little boy behind him and to the right had most of both hands blown off while playing with a hand grenade which he found in their compound. Of the seven whose arms are put up in slings six were wounded by tampering with unexploded shells or hand grenades. In four of these cases the hand had to be amputated. The boy standing in the centre with his head bound up had a narrow escape. On the afternoon of the 19th March several Russian soldiers, who had failed to escape, entered his home, where at the time were two men and five boys. They all managed to escape but this little fellow, who was last, fell in the doorway, and one of the soldiers made a rush at him. A sweep of the sword fortunately missed his neck which was aimed at but cut off part of the top of his head. The sword point was then thrust into his back, wounding his lungs, and he was left for dead. I am glad to say he has made a good recovery.

I also send a photograph of a group of refugees at food in front of one of our refugees. We have had about 10,000 under our care for some months, besides over 20,000 looked after by the native officials, but many, I am glad to say, are now able to return to their homes, or what is left of them. China Medical Missionary Journal.

## NEW TRADE COMMISSIONER AT SWATOW.

The Commissioner on Trade, Wang Liang, has arrived. He has begun work by inviting all the business men, great and small, to a conference. In the invitation it is specified that official robes, and official ceremonial hats, be worn, and that no one who should be present may excuse himself on the plea that either the dress or the manners is wanting in his case. The Commissioner invites detailed returns as to the trade of the port in native and foreign goods during the last three years. He wishes also to learn what manufacturers are being carried on, and what factories projected. It is his intention to enquire into the working of the Chamber of Commerce, and of the Swatow Guild of Merchants.

His instructions include an enquiry into the state of the Swatow-Chia-chou Rai way. Along with the Taoist he has now gone to Amoy to enquire into the local objections as to interference with graves, and with the natural drainage of the great plain lying inland from Swatow. To remedy both these evils the local magnates suggest an alteration of the course of the line. As no suggestion for a more convenient course is made it looks as if the idea were not to be carried out. To such a decision the Taoist does not lend a ready ear. The other objections are more difficult to deal with. The largest shareholder, being a Japanese subject, the local gentry accuse him of violating the agreement that all shares should be held by Chinese, and none at any later date sold abroad. Then added to this, it is alleged that while the agreement provided for the employment of British civil engineers the work of construction has been supervised entirely by Japanese. Hence it is argued that the Japanese are making a bid for the control of the line. The tone of the native papers is favourable to a reasonable solution which will retain the control of the railway in Chinese hands.

Other Railway Schemes are also on foot. It is proposed to construct a line from Chaochow to a point on the mainland opposite Amoy, and then continue via Chi-chow to Fochow. The promoters do not hope for any large passenger traffic, but expect to take a large mineral-bearing area. N.C. Daily News.

## WEATHER REPORT.

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:—  
On the 31st at 11.55 a.m. the barometer has fallen quickly over S. China and Formosa. A small depression is lying in the S. part of the Formosa Channel.  
Strong winds to gales may be expected in the Formosa Channel and fresh to strong W. and N.W. winds over the N. part of the China Sea.  
Forecast:—N.W. to W. winds, freshening; squally, showery.

## JAPAN AND THE MONEY MARKET.

Mr. Takahashi, the Japanese Financial Agent, who reached England on July 2nd on a special mission in connection with a proposed Japanese loan, was met on his arrival by a representative of Renter's Agency, to whom he said:—

"It is impossible to say whether the pending negotiations will terminate in a peace or not. It is also, in any case, impossible to predict how long the negotiations may continue. It has always been the policy of Japan to look a long way ahead, both politically and financially, and that being so, my Government has to consider future financial possibilities, so that her plans may not be altered at the last moment. To-day we have about 850,000,000 (£25,000,000) in New York remaining of the last loan, while in London we have some 28,000,000 of the last loan in addition to the final instalment, which is not due, so that Japan is not in the least in immediate need of further money. But even if peace results, more money is required to clear up the money market, for redeeming domestic bonds, and for general industrial development, and a large amount is also needed for the return of troops, pensions, &c. It is, of course, evident that more money is required, although our resources are ample for a continuance of hostilities for a long while. This being so, the Government proposes at a favourable moment to raise a new foreign loan, the time depending on the state of the money market. This will probably be at an early date. The exact details are not yet fixed, but the loan will, no doubt, be for £20,000,000, and will be issued in London and New York, and on the Continent. The security will again be the tobacco monopoly, which is ample for such an amount. There is the greatest activity in America in the purchase of Japanese securities by individual investors. On a day passed when I was there without transactions of \$1,000,000 (£200,000) in Japanese securities in small amounts, showing that bonds are being taken up by individual investors."

"After the issue of this loan I shall return to Japan. I am sure that negotiations for peace will begin at an early date, but how they will terminate depends entirely on Russia. Japan's position remains the same."—Times.

## THE LITERARY SIDE OF THE LATE JOHN HAY.

We take the following tribute from the Times:

His tastes led him away from the caucuses and the convention to literature, to social and domestic life, to Europe with its treasures of art and history. But he never put his preferences first. Sometimes he found it possible to conciliate two opposite tastes. In conjunction with Mr. Nicolas he set himself to write the life of President Lincoln. The life became a biographical history of a memorable period in the existence of the United States. It lost, therefore, much of its charm as a biography, but the ten volumes are such a narrative of political and military events during the four years of the R. Lincoln as could not otherwise have been achieved. They are invaluable, and the reader, impatient of their accurate fulness, may now have them abridged in two; a task irksome to the author but to the public of these hurried days, grateful in its result. The book is a monument; it is probably the literary work by which Mr. Hay would wish to be judged as a man of letters. Yet his "Castilian Days" and his "Poems" have more to say to the student of pure literature than his more voluminous work. Take out, however, from the life of Lincoln that which is essentially biographical and personal, and what remains is mostly Mr. Hay's, and it will put him very high among writers who have known how to point portraits in literature.

Mr. Hay had a humorous dislike to being spoken of as the author of the "Pike County Ballads." They filled, he thought, too large a space in his reputation, and he had done much serious work by which he preferred to be judged. The fame of these ballads will nevertheless cling to him; no adequate account of him could be written which should omit them. They were the spontaneous, free, unstudied expression of much that was best in him. The note of pathos, of sincere pity, is there. They are very modern and very local, yet the passionate love of what is heroic, which comes down in a direct line from Plutarch, thrills through them. Perhaps that other form, the heroic ballad, which is a confession, for what is merely conventional may shock the narrow-minded reader, but it is not meant to shock him. At any rate, both are equally genuine, and both appeal to what is human as distinguished from what is educational. Need it offend anybody that the poet should think—

The saving a little child and bringing him to his own,  
A demented sight better business than loading around the Threese!

What is there that even approaches the profane in that last stanza of the Mississippi Engineer, who stood by his engine while the steamer burnt, till the last man was ashore, and above—

"Blude's" ghost went up above—  
In the smoke of the Prairie Boats.

And this is the final epitaph from which some timid souls shrink—

He'd seen his duty, a dead sure thing,  
And he went for it, and they and me.

And Chris' n't giv' in to be too hard  
On a man who'd died for men.

These "Pike County Ballads" were written for the corner of a newspaper, as some of Lowell's immortal "Biglow Papers" were. Mr. Hay probably thought they would share the fate of the paper "which to-day is and to-morrow is cast into the oven." But they have lived, and are likely to live. In two of them, a many rare types of men have made their entrance into literature. Jim Bludso is one—the steamboat man of the West—brave, reckless, trim, who exists no longer in the flesh; Banty "Tim," who trumped death's ace for me that day, is the negro soldier during the Civil War, one of the thousands who fought steadily for the Republic without abating the ineradicable race prejudice of the Northern white who owed him so much.

## SHANGHAI NATIVE BANKERS TAKE ACTION.

A letter signed by the owners and managers of a number of native banks at Shanghai has been sent to the Executive Committee of the two Banks' Guilds (Chinese suburbs and International Settlement), requesting them to call a meeting of the representatives of all the native banks doing business in Shanghai to consider measures in connection with the American boycott. The principal subject to be called upon for discussion is it understood, whether or not business relations should be stopped, for the time, with the American International Bank here. The N.C. Daily News hopes that such a senseless proposal will be discountenanced.

## PRINCE CHING'S DOWNFALL.

A Peking correspondent writing about the recent snub experienced by Prince Ching when he was fined five years' salary for supporting the proposal of Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai and T'ieh Liang, Manchu President of the Board of War, that officers and soldiers in the Imperial Army should be permitted to cut off their queues "for convenience sake," gives it as his opinion that Prince Ching received was a sure sign of waning influence, for never yet in the history of the present dynasty has such a severe punishment been given to a Prince of the Blood. It is stated that there are several princes anxious to step into Prince Ching's shoes and that they have been lately using all sorts of intrigues to lower the influence of the old Prince over the Emperor Dowager. It is moreover an open secret that the Emperor cordially hates Prince Ching because at the coup d'état in 1898 the latter in his zeal for the Emperor Dowager was exceedingly harsh and disrespectful to his Sovereign. This, with the Prince's attempt to get the Emperor deposed in December of the same year in favour of the son of the late Prince Ch'ia (ex-Prince Chun), are events deeply engraved in the memory of the Emperor from whom Prince Ching has been banished. It is moreover an open secret that the Emperor cordially hates Prince Ching because at the coup d'état in 1898 the latter in his zeal for the Emperor Dowager was exceedingly harsh and disrespectful to his Sovereign. This, with the Prince's attempt to get the Emperor deposed in December of the same year in favour of the son of the late Prince Ch'ia (ex-Prince Chun), are events deeply engraved in the memory of the Emperor from whom Prince Ching has been banished. It is moreover an open secret that the Emperor cordially hates Prince Ching because at the coup d'état in 1898 the latter in his zeal for the Emperor Dowager was exceedingly harsh and disrespectful to his Sovereign. 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## NAVAL GUNS.

VERY SERIOUS INCIDENT.

(By Lieut. Arthur Bellairs, R.N. in  
Commercial Intelligence.)

The recall of the battleships of the China fleet is the best thing that the Admiralty have done for a long time. The idea of these ships, over 12-inch guns that could not fire through a naval action, preparing to meet a foreign fleet a few months ago is a very mortifying one. With that foreign fleet a few days from Hongkong the *Glory* and *Abdon* were waiting to shift 12-inch guns which had already given out at target practice, and did so seven days after the telegraphed report of the Russian fleet's arrival. A few weeks later more 12-inch guns were shifted from other battleships. That these events should be taking place in April and May when the Admiralty knew in December of the proved inefficiency of 12-inch Mark VIII is one of the saddest revelations I know of official incompetence. I say proved inefficiency because the target practice of the *Majestic* in December, when one gun blew a bit of its muzzle off after firing on full charge, another cracked its inner tube after firing only one full charge, and a third showed signs of a choked bore after firing only one full charge, seems to me pretty conclusive proof, though many others exist. Later in May a target battle was fought which showed that four heavy guns of a battleship might be called upon to fire well over a hundred full charges in a single battle. In the shifting of the *Glory* gun further revelations of almost inconceivable inefficiency took place. That big guns will be so worn after a naval battle that they will have to be changed is a thing a schoolboy understands. A bit on the muzzle of a 12-inch gun from a small gun of half its calibre is quite enough to put it out of action. Therefore, the problem of shifting these guns is the most important one an Admiralty has to work out, for it is far more important to follow up a blow in war, by taking the sea with renewed vigour, than to obtain the first blow which we have been hearing at museum, as though the present Board of Admiralty had discovered a new ploy.

Now to change guns after a battle we must provide a reserve of guns, and we must see that the dockyards think out the methods of shifting these heavy weights. The Admiralty did neither, though as regards the first they had examples of our Japanese allies, who before the war, according to the *Times* correspondent, provided themselves with a complete reserve of four heavy guns for each of their battleships. Last August the Admiralty knew the state to which the naval battle of August 10th had reduced the then armament of the four Japanese battleships, for we had a British naval captain on board the Japanese flagship. As regards shifting the guns, it was not until four weeks after the *Glory* that a private company, the Hongkong Dock Company, came to the rescue, and by rigging temporary sheers under their own powerful ones accomplished the revolution. Imagine such a delay of four weeks in war, over a change which when actually commenced took two and a half hours! What I wanted is that this wickedly careless method of not attempting to think out such a problem in advance is similar to the one that has landed us to date with an adequate reserve of guns for the fleet, and similar also to the refusal resolutely to face the fact that we want the 12-inch guns of the *Majestic* and *Glory* classes for battle and not target practice.

Now, as to the cost of re-arming these ships. If we were to re-arm the ships with 12-inch Mark IX guns, each gun would cost £29,000, but the mountings would not be strong enough. I am not prepared to question the wisdom of the Ordnance Committee if they decide that the mounting of a gun of this weight should be a new gun, and not a gun of the old type. Let us, however, assume the new gun also to cost £29,000, then 60 guns for 15 battleships would cost £2,580,000. I neglect here the more important question of providing a reserve of big guns for all our battleships, as I have dealt with it separately and shown the cost to be £700,000. If, therefore, the Admiralty decide that the 12-inch Mark VIII guns be rebuilt altogether, the cost would be less than £2,580,000, but the public will be wise to insist on a thorough job, for we want the gun for battle purposes and not for target practice, as some of the critics appear to suppose. In the meantime, however, the fifteen battleships would be thrown out of commission in batches for, say, six months. Readers of *Commercial Intelligence* will remember my calculations as to the cost of a battleship. I assume that there will be no saving on interest on the loan of the crown, and only a slight saving on depreciation. There will, however, be a considerable saving on repairs during the six months the vessels are out of commission. I put the total saving at £20,000 per ship or £300,000 in all. Our expenditure on the re-arming is, therefore, reduced to £2,280,000 net. What is this in Navy Estimates of forty millions sterling? I would obtain it by striking out two of the eleven submarines or submarines as they are called, though I would prefer to strike out altogether ten of these experimental craft. In the meantime, I would ask my readers to note the economy of the truth practised by the Admiralty and expressed in the *Daily Mail* on Thursday, 22nd June. Sir Gilbert Parker was told in the House of Commons that no instructions had been issued to the *Majestic* and *Ocean* classes of battleships regarding this target practice from the 12-inch guns. This answer was given in spite of the knowledge on the part of the Admiralty that they had ordered the firing of three-quarter charges to be discontinued and the charges reduced to half charge. The *Daily Graphic* does well to lead this information. "Nursing the Woolwich Infants."

## THE CHINESE VIEW.

A contemporary says that efforts to smooth the troubled waters are not likely to have lasting results if the opinion of the Chinese Minister at Washington should prove correct. Speaking on the subject at the time President Roosevelt's letter was issued, the Chinese Minister is reported to have made the following observations:—  
"I doubt if any Treaty that could be written would be ratified at Peking. My Government wants the same treatment extended to the Chinese as is extended to other people. We have no objection to having colonies from the United States if colonies from other countries are allowed out, too. Why should you not have an educational clause which would bar out all undesirable ignorant immigration? I am satisfied that until the United States shows a disposition to treat China on the same basis as other nations there will be no exclusion Treaty ratified. I don't care to discuss the boycott question. All I can say is that China wants fair treatment."

The argument of the Chinese Minister forms the kernel of the whole question, and until the United States considers the subject from the point of view of common treatment being extended to all immigrants, of whatever race and colour the present dissatisfaction of the Chinese at American discrimination against men of their race is likely to continue.

## MARCONI TELEGRAPHY IN LIGHTSHIPS.

CONTRACT BETWEEN THE COMPANY AND THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Press Association is informed that the Board of Trade and Trinity House have concluded a contract with Marconi's Wireless Telegraphy Company, Ltd., providing for the equipment of lightships with Marconi's wireless telegraph installations. This arrangement will enable the lightships to communicate with the shore and with one another by wireless telegraph for the ordinary purposes of the lightship service, and also to report ships in distress.

It is now more than six years since the Marconi Company, by installing wireless telegraph apparatus on the East Goodwin lightship and working it in communication with a shore station, proved to the satisfaction of the Board of Trade and Trinity House that good telegraphic communication could be maintained by wireless means. Communication was maintained for several months, during the latter part of which period the station on the lightship was worked by the lighthouse crew. The installations were found of great service to the lightship for ordinary communication, and on one or two occasions were of special utility in reporting damage from storms and in securing prompt assistance. When after several months it was found that the Board of Trade and Trinity House were not in a position to make a contract for the continuance of the arrangement the apparatus was removed, the company receiving the thanks of the Trinity House and an expression of satisfaction with the service rendered. Representations have from time to time been made to the Government by persons interested in the protection of shipping upon the desirability of effecting telegraphic communication between the lightships and the shore. Cable communication has, however, been found both expensive and uncertain, and until recently various difficulties have prevented the Board of Trade and the Trinity House from concluding an arrangement with the Marconi Company for a wireless service. These difficulties have, however, now apparently been surmounted and a contract has been signed.

## THE NEW PORTS IN SHANTUNG.

Under the heading, "Conversion of the Germans," the *Chung Hui Daily News* has the following:—  
Mr. Milne, the Japanese Consul at Chiofou, accompanied by Mr. Midzuno passed through this port Monday. Mr. Midzuno came down from Tientsin in the steamer *Yamato* after having paid a visit to the Japanese authorities at Peking. The consul proceeded from here directly to Tsingtau from where he is to take the railway to Chiofou. It is understood that Mr. Midzuno's journey has some connection with the opening of the new consulate in general and other matters for Japan in this port. It will be remembered that the *Daily News* announced some time ago that several influential Japanese were visitors at the capital of this province for quite a length of time, constantly conferring with the Governor on various matters. At the same time Mr. Ross, British Vice Consul at Chiofou, visited the capital of Shantung. It is stated that it was settled at this time to erect both Japanese and British consulates in the new treaty ports which were to be opened for foreign trade during the present month. The following ports were to be opened: Chiofou, Weishan and Chiofou. As will be seen elsewhere in the columns of the *Daily News* it is stated that Hainan is also to be a treaty port in future. It would not be surprising to see also that little places hitherto with a Japanese and a British agency.

## EXTRAVAGANT OFFICERS.

The Army Council, with a view to reducing the expenditure in the cavalry of the Line, have decided to considerably amend the King's Regulations and Orders for the Army. It will now be more than ever incumbent on commanding officers that they shall take steps to keep expenditure well within bounds. All those extravagances which have hitherto been a source of mischief in keeping young men of moderate means out of the service are to be put down with a firm hand, and any lieutenant-colonel who may fall to support the authorities in this direction in this direction will be liable to be summarily dealt with. It has been found that in some regiments a system has been adopted of keeping two sets of accounts, one in which are entered all legitimate charges, and another giving details of various expenses which are extravagant, and for the most part unnecessary. This arrangement is to be strictly forbidden in future. It is now to be laid down in clear and distinct terms that no semi-private account shall be kept in this direction, and that the officers of the service would be largely increased if the style of living was simplified and rendered more in keeping with the needs of the military profession.

## SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

TRAPS OF MANY KINDS—HYPERSCOPIC ANTERO-OMY—BRITISH INVENTION—A MARVEL OF PHYSIOLOGY AND HEREDITY—A PROMISING FUEL—BUTTERFLY MIGRATION—THE PUSH OF LIGHT—BIG ELECTRIC BELLS—SMOKE FILTERING—FISHES DO SLEEP.

Ten-drinking is an acquired habit, and M. Jules Rabin expresses the belief that it would not be difficult to transfer our liking for Chinese tea to any one of various infusions, having the same effect in aiding digestion and stimulating the nervous system. Some of these infusions of leaves and flowers have been known to us as medicines: Camomile, vervain, sage, ambrosia, horse-mint and wintergreen are among the locally well known of many common plants yielding agreeable tea, and Paraguay tea and false tea are great stimulants used in South America. M. Rabin looks upon Roman camomile as an especially promising tea substitute. He has found the unknown tea of the taragon to be very pleasant, and it is useful in stomach weakness.

A stereoscopic star chart is the successful novelty of T. E. Heath, the English astronomer. The stars in a given section of the heavens are drawn from two points of view that are supposed to be twenty-four light-years apart, and under a high stereoscopic the double view gives a rough but very instructive impression of the stars floating in space at an approximation to their relative distances, instead of as points against the dark background of the sky. This result is a most interesting one.

The recent classification at the British Patent Office shows that, cooking in the popular method of ironing, having been the subject of 1,375 British patents in 48 years, or an average of 73 a year. Umbrellas brought out 1,477

inventions and hats 1,411. Invention tends to run in grooves, 1890 and 1897 reflecting the enormous development in cycles, while motor vehicle inventions have doubled since 1900.

The rare peculiarity known as hemophily, or "bleeding sickness," has been brought to notice anew by the Bohme, a German physician. It continues for generation after generation in certain families, and is characterized by an extraordinary tendency to hemorrhage, making the extraction of a tooth a dangerous operation, while even a pin-prick may lead to severe or fatal bleeding. The cause seems to exist in an unexplained failure of the blood to coagulate in normal blood. The disease has been studied in more than sixty European families, and in the Mampel family has been followed for more than a century. Johan Peter Mampel and wife were not "bleeders." Of their eleven children three sons were affected, and from observations on 212 members of these and subsequent generations of the family a most singular law of heredity is deduced. This law is that while the disease is practically confined to males, it is never transmitted by these males to their sons, but only by the women—who are normal—to their sons.

The new petroleum fuel reported from Switzerland is in the form of briquettes containing four parts of petroleum to one part of solid material. At fifteen cents per gallon for oil, the cost of such briquettes was about 21 cents, but on a large scale would be much less. Four briquettes of this kind, having a heating surface of 400 square feet, ignited this fuel in fifteen minutes, the briquettes themselves burning forty-five minutes. Among the claims made for the fuel is that it may be kept in piles fifty feet high without breaking or crumbling, escape of liquid, loss of weight or risk of explosion or spontaneous combustion.

Enormous swarms of butterflies, more alive than the Amazon and other South American rivers. M. O. G. of Para, Brazil, finds that detached masses of millions of butterflies are in bloom, but does not explain the general migration. One suggestion is that the great flights are made up of females seeking mates as a place of egg laying.

The repulsive action of light is shown in a very pretty experiment. An hour-glass-shaped glass vessel, partly filled with very fine and light lycopodium spores, and the air is then pumped out to as high a vacuum as is practicable. The spore falls down through the orifice of this hour-glass in the usual way. As the light dust jet falls an intense beam of light focused on it just below the hole spreads it out into a spray, the lighter particles being repelled most. On comparative heavy material, like sand, the light beam could have no effect.

A specimen of the powerful electric bell now being made by a London firm for railway use has a gong 19½ inches in diameter and weighing 80 pounds, and the complete bell weighs about 150 pounds. The iron clapper is two inches in diameter, making from 100 to 150 strokes per minute. The actuating parts are entirely enclosed in a watertight cast-iron box, the pull rod for moving the clapper passing through a packed gland. The current needed for three-fourths ampere at 15 volts—is supplied by 12 ordinary dry cells.

New smoke-burning appliances continue to use up a considerable share of the world's inventive energy. The promising idea of a Belgian chemist consists in drawing the smoke out of the chimney by an aspirator, and passing it through a filter of coke saturated with petroleum. The filter collects the soot, while the gases passing through are made harmless by the enriching with petroleum vapour. There is no loss, as the coke of the filter is an excellent fuel.

For twenty years fishes of many varieties have been kept in aquaria by F. Davis, of London, and his observations have convinced him—contrary to common belief—that fishes sleep, though only in darkness. Artificial light awakes them. He finds also that fishes have their play or sports like other creatures.

## IS INDIA A "POOR COUNTRY?"

It has lately become far too much the fashion to speak of British India collectively as a "poor country." This pessimism is, no doubt, a reaction from those earlier times when our great Asiatic dependency was habitually pictured as a Tom Tiddler's ground where the paragon tribe invited all white officials to give it a shake. Both views of the economic condition of the population are entirely unsound, as Sir Edward Law, the ex-Finance Minister, has just demonstrated afresh. India is "poor" only in the sense that the large majority of her native inhabitants are in marvellous circumstances, when judged from the European standpoint. But that is a most erroneous method of economic analysis. How can the epithet be applied with any accuracy to a vast and densely populated area whose assets exceed in salable value all its financial liabilities? We have the high authority of Sir Edward Law for that astonishing calculation, and he says with truth that there is no other State in the whole world which could make so good a showing. And, to add to the marvel, two families of exceptional severity and duration immediately preface the present prosperous condition of the population. Furthermore, the peninsula has latterly absorbed £10,000,000 in the previous instalment of the same time-interesting large sums of while at the same time interesting large sums of productive works, affording employment for hundreds of thousands of patient tillers. No India is not "a poor country."

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